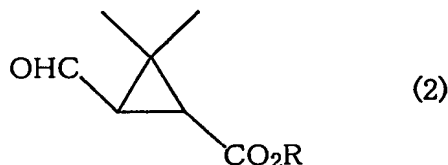


alkenyl groups, there has been known, for example, a process in which the 3,3-dimethyl-2-formylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid derivative of formula (2):



5 wherein R is as defined above, are reacted with Wittig reagents (see, *e.g.*, J. Labelled Compounds and Radiopharmaceuticals, 13, 561(1977)). The 3,3-dimethyl-2-formylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid derivatives of the above formula (2) become important compounds in the synthesis of the above analogs.

As the processes for the production of the 3,3-dimethyl-2-formyl-  
10 cyclopropanecarboxylic acid derivative of formula (2), there have been known, for example, a process in which the 3,3-dimethyl-2-(2-methyl-1-propenyl)-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid compound of the above formula (1) are oxidized in the presence of an osmium tetroxide catalyst (see, *e.g.*, J. Labelled Com-  
pounds and Radiopharmaceuticals, 13, 561(1977)) and a process in which the  
15 3,3-dimethyl-2-(2-methyl-1-propenyl)cyclopropanecarboxylic acid compounds of the above formula (1) are oxidized with ozone (see, *e.g.*, JP-B 46-24695). However, since the former process uses highly toxic osmium tetroxide and the latter process has a tendency to need large-scale equipment, both cannot be said to be production processes suitable on an industrial scale.

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#### Disclosure of Invention

Under these circumstances, the present inventor has intensively studied a process for the production of the 3,3-dimethyl-2-formylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid derivative of the above formula (2) on an industrial scale  
25 and has found that the desired 3,3-dimethyl-2-formylcyclopropanecarboxylic